

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 EB-07

IO-10 INR-07 INRE-00 /055 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:WDROGERS:MBB

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

S/S :REWOODS

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030435

TOSEC 42

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:ACTION MEMORANDUM: LIFTING THE OAS SANCTIONS
AGAINST CUBA (S/S NO.7502915)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ROGERS

1. THE OAS SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA CAN BE RESOLVED DURING
(OR EVEN BEFORE) THE APRIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING BY A
RESOLUTION OF THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION AMENDING THE
EARLIER 1964 CUBAN RESOLUTION TO PERMIT THE SANCTIONS
TO BE LIFTED BY A MAJORITY.

2. BACKGROUND: THE MEMBER STATES OF THE OAS HAVE
ALREADY AGREED, IN THE OAS SPECIAL COMMITTEE, THAT THE
RIO TREATY SHOULD BE AMENDED, INTER ALIA, BY PERMITTING
SANCTIONS TO BE LIFTED BY A MAJORITY. THAT AND OTHER
CHANGES IN THE TREATY ARE TO BE ENDORSED BY THE FOREIGN
MINISTERS SHORTLY -- PRESUMABLY AGAIN WITHOUT OBJECTION.
BUT IT WILL TAKE TIME BEFORE THOSE CHANGES ARE JURID-
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ICALLY EFFECTIVE, BECAUSE OF THE ELABORATE RATIFICATION

PROCESSES REQUIRED IN MOST COUNTRIES.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO OF COLOMBIA HAS THEREFORE

SUGGESTED PRIVATELY TO US (BUT SO FAR AS ONE CAN TELL, NOT TO OTHERS) THAT IN THE INTERIM THERE BE A SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE MINISTERS, ACTING BRIEFLY AS AN ORGAN OF CONSULTATION, ON THE CUBAN SANCTIONS. THAT RESOLUTION WOULD, PENDING THE RATIFICATION OF THE FORMAL TREATY CHANGES, APPLY THE MAJORITY RULE PRINCIPLE TO THE 1964 RESOLUTION, AND WOULD DELEGATE THE SANCTION-LIFTING FUNCTION TO THE PERMANENT COUNCIL. THEN, AT SUCH TIME AS PLEASES THEM, THE PERMANENT COUNCIL COULD MEET AND THE EXISTING MAJORITY WOULD VOTE TO LIFT THE CUBAN SANCTIONS.

4. WE COULD ABSTAIN ON THIS VOTE. BUT OUR SUPPORT FOR THE RESOLUTION IN THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION IS CRUCIAL.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS:

OPTION 1: THAT WE FIRST ADVISE BRAZIL THAT WE, ONCE AGAIN, PROBABLY WILL FOLLOW THE LIEVANO ROUTE. (WE HAVE KEPT SILVEIRA FULLY UP TO DATE SO FAR.)

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

OPTION 2: COSTA RICA FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO WILL BE HERE IN LATE FEBRUARY. YOU COULD ASK HIM ABOUT THE IDEA THEN:

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

OPTION 3: DURING MY TRIP THE FIRST WEEK IN MARCH:

-- IN CARACAS, I COULD INDICATE TO FOREIGN MINISTER
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ESCOVAR THAT WE MIGHT WELL GO ALONG WITH THE LIEVANO PROPOSAL, IF VENEZUELA CAN BRING THE CENTRAL AMERICANS IN. THIS WOULD PUT VENEZUELA'S NEW EFFORT AT LEADERSHIP IN THAT AREA TO A FAIR TEST IN GUATEMALA AND NICARAGUA. THEY ABSTAINED IN QUITO.

-- IN MONTEVIDEO, I COULD TELL BLANCO THAT WE WOULD

LIKE TO SEE THE ISSUE RESOLVED. THE LIEVANO FORMULA SEEMS THE EASIEST WAY TO DO IT. I COULD ASK IF BLANCO WILL VOTE FOR IT.

-- IN SANTIAGO, I SAY THE SAME THING TO FOREIGN MINISTER CARVAJAL.

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

OPTION 4: IF, ON MY RETURN HERE, YOU FIND THE RESULTS OF THESE SOUNDINGS NOT UNFAVORABLE, WE COULD ADVISE LIEVANO ABOUT MARCH 10 THAT WE WILL SUPPORT HIS RESOLUTION, AND SUGGEST THAT HE MIGHT WANT TO ADVISE OTHER CAPITALS AND THEN MAKE THE PROPOSAL PUBLIC IN BOGOTA AS HIS INITIATIVE.

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE030435
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WDROGERS:MBB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750048-0695
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750253/aaaabvqe.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <28 NOV 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CTION MEMORANDUM: LIFTING THE OAS SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA (S/S NO.7502915)
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: JERUSALEM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006